**Emergency Response Plan 2011 for secondary science laboratories (Some clarifications)**

**With regard to the emergency response plan:**

* **Contains where do teachers and students meet and what they do in an emergency situated at your school, this is pertinent to the science faculty not the whole school. Where are the gas lines (main valve) and where the chemical store in the science faculty is- have this clearly labeled on a small map. This might be obvious to you and staff but not to the fire service or a medical response team entering the school campus for the first time. Science staff/ science technician or the HOD science may not be present on site in the advent of the emergency so the plan is particularly significant for others to follow.**
* **It is for Fire, earthquake, tsunami, chemical poisoning etc. this must be clear for teachers and students on what to actually do in an emergency. What is the procedure.**
* **What are the steps if a teacher or student at your school has an accident in the science dept? Who is contacted? What actually happens in a methodical approach? You can put this on a card next/close to the phone and in each lab. Titled: Emergency response plan.**
* **The ERP is an absolutely crucial and legal requirement for all BOT of schools to implement. It is the overall responsibility of the BOT to have minimized risks, provide a plan of what to do in the advent of an emergency and provide safe and healthy environments for staff and students at the school. This is covered in the OSH and HASNO Acts. These mandatory acts are incredibly powerful in terms of people’s health and wellbeing.**

Please contact me if you wish further clarification and advice.

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